KAWAGUCHI K. et al. Appl. No. Not yet assigned US National Phase of PCT/JP03/06778 October 5, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been amended to place the application in a more traditional U.S. format and/or to reduce the filing fees, without prejudice.

The specification has been amended to include the parent applications.

An early and favorable action on the merits of the claimed invention is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

D 171

Bryan H. Davidson Reg. No. 30,251

BHD:lcb

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100